

REMARKS

Claims 1 to 6, 8 to 21, are pending in this application; of which, claims 1 and 15 are the independent claims. Applicants have added claims 20 and 21. Favorable reconsideration and further examination are respectfully requested.

Applicant acknowledges the Examiner's indication that claims 7 to 8, 11 to 14 and 16 to 19 would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including the base claim and any intervening claims.

Claims 1 to 6, 9 and 10 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(a) as being anticipated by Soltanian et al. (U.S. Patent Application Publication Number 20030174079 hereinafter "Soltanian").

Amended claim 1 is directed to a testing architecture for automatic test equipment. The testing architecture includes a signal source and a plurality of source/capture channels comprising one source/capture channel and remaining source/capture channels. The one source/capture channel is coupled to the signal source. The signal source is configured to provide a cancellation signal to reduce an amplitude of a signal received by the one source/capture channel. The one source/capture channel includes a first combiner configured to receive a signal under test and a baseline signal and configured to provide a first combiner output signal. The one source/capture channel also includes a second combiner configured to receive the first combiner output signal and configured to provide a second combiner output signal.

The applied art is not understood to disclose or to suggest the foregoing features of claim 1. In particular, Soltanian does not disclose or suggest a second combiner configured to receive the first combiner output signal (see, for example, FIG. 2 of Applicant's specification).

Soltanian includes one combiner per channel (see Figure 3 of Soltanian). Soltanian does not include a second combiner much less a second combiner configured to receive the first combiner output signal. Therefore, Soltanian does not disclose or suggest a second combiner configured to receive the first combiner output signal.

Claim 15 was rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(a) as being anticipated by Sasaki et al. (U.S. Patent Number 6,667,702 hereinafter "Sasaki").

Claim 15 is directed to a reconfigurable testing architecture for automatic test equipment. The architecture includes a signal source and a plurality of channels having one channel and remaining channels. The channels are each configurable into a plurality of modes. Each of the modes provides a different level of precision from another of the modes. The one channel includes a first combiner configured to receive a signal under test and a baseline signal, and configured to provide a first combiner output signal. The one channel also includes a second combiner configured to receive the first combiner output signal and configured to provide a second combiner output signal.

The applied art is not understood to disclose or to suggest the foregoing features of claim 15. In particular, Sasaki does not disclose or suggest a second combiner configured to receive the first combiner output signal (see, for example, FIG. 2 of Applicant's specification).

Sasaki does not include combiners. Thus, Sasaki does not include a second combiner much less a second combiner configured to receive the first combiner output signal. Therefore, Sasaki does not disclose or suggest a second combiner configured to receive the first combiner output signal.

For at least the foregoing reasons, Applicant requests withdrawal of the art rejections.

New independent claim 20 includes at least the same features as claim 1. Applicant submits that claim 20 should be allowable for at least the same foregoing reasons indicated for claim 1.

Applicant submits that all dependent claims now depend on allowable independent claims.

It is believed that all of the pending claims have been addressed. However, the absence of a reply to a specific rejection, issue or comment does not signify agreement with or concession of that rejection, issue or comment. In addition, because the arguments made above may not be exhaustive, there may be reasons for withdrawing the prior art cited with regards to any or all pending claims (or other claims) that have not been expressed. Finally, nothing in this paper should be construed as intent to concede any issue with regard to any claim, except as specifically stated in this paper, and the amendment of any claim does not necessarily signify concession of unpatentability of the claim prior to its amendment.

Applicant submits that the entire application is now in condition for allowance. Such action is respectfully requested at the Examiner's earliest convenience.

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Page : 15 of 15

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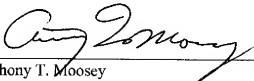
All correspondence should be directed to the address below. Applicant's attorney can be reached by telephone at (781) 401-9988 ext. 23.

No fee is believed to be due for this Response; however, if any fees are due, please apply such fees to Deposit Account No. 50-0845 referencing Attorney Docket: TER-021PUS.

Respectfully submitted,

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